

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Metcalfe

Serial No.: 09/381,508

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Filed: September 21, 1999

**For: EXPANDABLE SLOTTED
TUBING STRING AND
METHOD FOR CONNECTING
SUCH A TUBING STRING**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 20 NOV, 2001 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

20 NOV 2001 Gregory H. Hines
Date Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 3, 2001

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2001, having a shortened statutory period for response extended two months to expire on December 3, 2001, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Enclosed herewith is a substitute specification to correct the informalities of organization as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been introduced.

Additionally, please replace paragraph 18 of the substitute specification with the following paragraph:

[0018] According to a still further aspect of the present invention there is provided an arrangement for coupling lengths of expandable tubing, the arrangement comprising a